be given to the officials to reside there by providing them houses and that the sum of Rs. 10,000 now provided for the purpose being very inadequate should be enhanced.

THE DEWAN promised to consider the matter.

RESOLUTIONS ON THE BUDGET.

Resolution No. 1.

MR. JATRA NAIK moved the following resolution:—

"This Assembly recommends to the Government of His Highness the Maharaja that so much of the amount as is required for the grant of scholarships to the Banajara community students be separated from out of the amount provided in the Budget for the scholarship of backward communities."

In doing so, he observed that the students belonging to the Banajara community had at present no facilities for taking up education. There were already nearly 800 students of that community reading in primary schools. Out of them about 50 or 60 only, he said, were getting scholarships of Re. 1 or Rs. 1½ per month. As all the students were poor, he requested that a much larger number should be given scholarships.

THE THIRD MEMBER OF COUNCIL replied that the question whether the scholarship amount could be fixed separately for the community on the population basis would be considered.

On this assurance, the resolution was withdrawn by the mover with the permission of the House.

Resolution No. 3.

MR. HOSAKOPPA KRISHNA RAO then moved the following resolution:—

"This Assembly recommends to Government the supreme necessity for effecting retrenchment in the expenditure of State's Administration especially at the top."

In doing so, he said that he attached very great importance to this resolution. In his opinion, the present condition of the Mysore finances was due to the top-heaviness of the administration. He conceded that it was a legacy of the past. He recalled that a similar resolution was brought up by him in 1924 and was unanimously passed. As no action had been taken by Government thereon, it was repeated in 1927 and was again passed unanimously.

Apparently the opinion of the Government was that there would be no use of effecting retrenchments in the expenditure on establishments as the savings therefrom would be only a few lakhs while crores of rupees were required for expenditure on the administration. With all that, in his opinion, retrenchments should be effected. In 1924 there were 430 officers in the State on high pay. Of these, 290 related to appointments from Rs. 250 and above, 95 from Rs. 500 to Rs. 1,000 and 45 from Rs. 1,000 to Rs. 5,000. The total cost on establishment would be about Rs. 35 lakhs. He said that he also showed then how a sum of Rs. 6 lakhs of this expenditure could he saved by retrenchments. The cost on establishments had since then increased still further and it was possible to get more savings at the present time. He reminded the Dewan of his statement when he assumed the Dewanship of Mysore that he would not look upon his office as a source of income but that he would work more from the point of view of patriotic service. The speaker thought that every officer of Government should be actuated by that motive. They should consider that the State was theirs and as such they should not take very heavy salaries. The condition of the finances of the State was deplorable. Every endeavour should be made by the officers to improve it. He said that in the interests of the State they should be prepared to forego a definite portion of their salary. He appealed to the Government to view this question favourably, only for the welfare of the people of the State at large. If the officers from the Dewan downwards up to those getting Rs. 250 would forego a few hundreds and tens, a clear savings of about Rs. 7 lakhs could be effected. He earnestly pleaded that the Government should comply with his request. He specially appealed to the Dewan himself to set an example for other officers to follow. He did not think that it was right on the part of the Government to give no heed to the reiterated and unanimous requests of the people in that regard. He was of opinion that in a period of about ten years the Government would have saved nearly a crore of rupees. The Government themselves had realised in the past the need for strict economies in the expenditure of the State. It was with a view to explore the directions in which such economies were possible that successive financial experts from British India were imported into Mysore. It was on similar considerations that Mr. K. L. Datta was appointed as Special Officer. Mr. Datta had said : " If financial reforms are necessary, there is no good

of thinking about taxation and other things, but retrenchments should be effected." Mr. Krishna Rao thus thought that there was no use in the Government continuing their present policy. It may be that temporarily they could adjust themselves by getting through the present difficulties. But if the Government were to continue on a sound basis, they should be foresighted and should effect permanent savings. If at any time the Government wanted to give a sum of Rs. 10,000 for any purpose, they had no money to spare out of their ordinary income. This was, in his opinion, a sorry state of things. Government had adopted the policy of expansion of elementary education, for which a large sum of money would be required. The speaker did not see how that policy could be carried out in the absence of sufficient funds. There was no doubt that elementary education should be spread throughout Mysore. Every boy and girl should be at least given elementary education whatever the cost might be. For this purpose, nothing less than one crore of rupees was required. Where was the money to come from? Mr. Krishna Rao referred to his suggestion made two years back that the sum of Rs. 10½ lakhs saved from the subsidy should be set apart for primary education. If this had been acted upon, the Government should have had some amount ready on hand. But the suggestion was not accepted. He therefore thought that the only alternative left was to reduce the evergrowing expenditure on establishments and save a definite portion of it for the absolute needs of Government. In the circumstances he commended the resolution to the acceptance of the Government.

MR. H. R. T. RAJAGOPALA MUDALIAR in seconding the resolution observed that scope should not be given to foreigners for employment in the State service on high pay. He did not think that they gave adequate return for the rate-payers' money taken by them. It was necessary in his opinion to employ only local men on a lower scale of salary. He appealed to the Dewan to revise the Civil Service Regulations and re-grade the pay of civil servants. He did not think that in any other country such high pay was given to officers as in Mysore. He was of opinion that by reducing the pay of higher appointments much of the difference between labour and capital would be adjusted.

MR. BANDIAH opposed the resolution. He thought that really efficient men would not come unless adequate salary was given to them. One result of the reduction of the

salaries of high appointments would be that corruption would increase and the prosperity of the country would suffer.

MR. M. S. LENGE GOWDA also opposed the resolution. He thought that such a proposal would work well only in villages but not in places where there were highly efficient and educated men. If the Government required able men, they should be paid adequately. There were doctors in the country but they would not allow themselves to be paid the same fee. He did not say that retrenchment was not necessary. It was called for in cases where there was not sufficient work or where the officer was inefficient. A workman should be paid according to his merit. It was impossible to conceive of a maistry who would be prepared to work on the same wage that was given to a cooly. If a maistry was paid less, his work also would be commensurate with the payment made to him.

MR. OSMAN KHAN also opposed the resolution. He said that Mysore was a model State and that the system of administration had been highly praised even in British India and elsewhere. When the Government contemplated making even taluks model, he did not know how retrenchment could be effected without paying for the efficient services of the officers who had to take more and more responsibilities on their shoulders. He said that there was a lot of difference between the condition of the people in the villages 10 years ago and that at the present time. While formerly it was deplorable, at present huge sums were being spent for the improvement of villages, restoration of tanks, etc. All these things of great magnitude could not be managed unless the direction and supervision were adequately paid for. He pointed out that the question of retrenchment had been considered on previous occasions and that it had already been effected to the extent desirable. It was said that a sum of Rs. 6 lakhs would be saved by retrenchments, according to the suggestion made by the mover of the resolution. But, that was nothing when compared with the total expenditure of the State and larger sums still required for the development of the country. The pay to be given to a responsible officer depended to a large extent on the prestige of the State also. In this view, he was of opinion that far from reducing the pay, it should be increased. Instead of finding small sums of money by ineffective retrenchments, he thought that fresh sources of income should be explored for carrying out the development works.

MR. GOPALASWAMI IYER was of opinion that the pay

of the appointments should not be reduced on any account. The country as a whole was very poor. The Government had no means of enhancing the provision for primary education. They had to maintain the University from the provincial revenues while elsewhere the University was maintained mainly from bountiful endowments. All these showed that the people were not wealthy and their earning capacity was poor. There was any amount of electricity available. With the help of this, a number of industries should be organised and the earning power of the people should be improved. It was then, he thought, possible for Government to get more money for their needs. The savings derivable for retrenchments of pay would be nothing compared with the huge sums required by Government and even with such retrenchments the difficulties of Government would not materially disappear. He therefore opposed the resolution.

MR. ABDUL AZIZ said that the members had spoken according to the constituency from which they came, *viz.*, that the nominated members opposed the resolution and the elected members supported it. So far as he was concerned, he said he was in favour of reducing the pay of higher officers.

MR. MIR MUHAMMAD said that if the pay of officers was reduced, it would not be possible for them to maintain their dignity and position. He was afraid that a reduction of pay would affect the efficiency of service also. He however thought that there might be room for retrenchment of superfluous appointments in the various departments of Government, and suggested the appointment of a committee to go not only into this question but also to find out fresh sources of income. With these observations, he opposed the resolution.

MR. BAGAMANE DEVAGOWDA said that the Government had accepted the policy of retrenchment in a way by reducing the travelling allowances to clerks drawing Rs. 40 and below. He was of the opinion that the Government had applied the sword at the wrong end and urged that they should try and effect retrenchments in the higher grades of service as it was there that a reduction of expenditure was really possible. He also added that just as the Government were anxious to increase their revenue by additional taxation, they should also be anxious to keep down the cost of administration to the utmost possible extent and that would be possible only if the Government reduced the salaries of

officers to some extent. Such a measure, he said, would not only give entire satisfaction to the rate-payers, but would also release some funds for improving the lot of the low-paid subordinate establishments. With these remarks, he supported the resolution.

MR. H. B. GUNDAPPA GOWDA also supported the resolution. He said that session after session the members of the Assembly had been urging upon the attention of the Government the need for improving the pay and prospects of the clerical establishments, the school masters, the police constables, etc., but the Government, in spite of their best efforts, could not do anything so far owing to financial stringency. He added that the officers should, in a spirit of fellow-feeling and patriotism, forego a portion of their salaries to enable the Government to improve the lot of the subordinate staff.

MR. V. VENKATAPPA said that although during the time of Sir Albion Banerji certain retrenchments were effected as a result of the recommendations of a committee appointed for the purpose, it did not at all affect the higher grades of service. Only a few clerks and menials were displaced. During the last few years, the expenditure had increased enormously and it was time to examine to what extent retrenchments could be effected in the various departments of Government.

Continuing Mr. Venkatappa said that the officers should consider it a privilege to render patriotic service by agreeing to work on lower salaries. By doing so, they would be showing their spirit of self-sacrifice and patriotism. As a matter of fact, the Prime Minister of England was getting only 5,000 pounds per annum. It did not mean that his dignity or prestige had suffered, but, on the other hand, it had enhanced his reputation. Judging from that standard, the officers in the State were getting much more and there was room for retrenchment. He added that even in the matter of pay to officers, this should be a model State. He did not think that the efficiency of the services would suffer as a result of reducing the pay of officers.

In conclusion, Mr. Venkatappa said that if the officers set an example by foregoing a portion of their pay, the non-official Presidents of District Boards would be induced to work without any remuneration at all.

MR. MAHOMED IMAM said that there were two kinds of officers, *viz.*, technical and administrative, and Government should consider what the effect of this reduction would be

on both these types of officers. If the technical officers were not paid decently, there would be occasion for bribery and corruption. Also, the administrative officers, who were responsible for the lives and property of the raiyats, should be paid well to maintain their dignity and position.

Continuing Mr. Mahomed Imam said that compared with the salaries of the officers in the British Indian Provinces, the officers in the State were paid less and it would not be right to reduce them any further in the interests of efficiency of the service. He was of opinion that the pay of officers should be such as to keep them above all temptations. In this view, he opposed the resolution.

MR. M. C. LINGE GOWDA was afraid that the resolution would not lead to any definiteness. He said that the pay given to the officers in the State was very much less than in the neighbouring British Provinces, and if it was still further reduced, corruption and bribery would increase.

Referring to the observation of Mr. Venkatappa that the District Board Presidents would work without any remuneration if the Government reduced the pay of higher officers, Mr. Linge Gowda said that at present the number of public spirited workers was very limited and the question might be taken up when a good number of people became available to work honorarily.

MR. VENKATAVARADACHAR opposed the resolution on the ground that it would not be right to bring down the salaries once they were fixed. He was afraid that many officers would seek employment outside the State, if reduction of pay was resorted to. He added that with a view to keep officers above temptation, they should be given decent pay. He had, however, no objection to effect retrenchments in the number of officers wherever possible.

MR. HOSAKOPPA KRISHNA RAO in replying to the debate said that the arguments advanced by the opposers of the resolution were obsolete and were unsuited to the present day conditions. He did not think that a comparison with the salaries given in British Provinces would be correct as the people employed there were mostly foreigners whose main object was to make as much money as possible and get back to their homes, and it was for their sake that high salaries were being fixed. He was of opinion that the conditions existing in other free countries should be taken into account in fixing these salaries.

Mr. Krishna Rao urged that the pay of higher officers should be reduced and that of the lower officials increased

with a view to bridge the gulf between the two. If that was not done, he was afraid that there would be discontent as between labour and capital, and efficient work could not be guaranteed. He also added that mere reduction of pay of officers was not everything, but considered it desirable that a careful investigation should be made to find out what excess establishment there was in the various departments of the State and it should be abolished.

Mr. Krishna Rao did not think that the efficiency of service would be impaired if the salaries of higher officers were reduced. He said that there were many intelligent and capable young men in the State who could occupy any post and discharge their duties very creditably. He did not consider that pay was the criterion of efficiency and emphasised the necessity of officers working with patriotic motives.

Continuing, Mr. Krishna Rao said that if the Government reduced their expenditure on administration and diverted as much money as possible for other humanitarian purposes, private people also would come forward with liberal endowments. He added that at a time when 40 lakhs of people in the State were starving with less than half a meal per day, a little self-sacrifice on the part of officers would be very much appreciated. In this view, he requested the Government to accept the resolution and give some relief to the subordinate staff.

In conclusion, Mr. Krishna Rao appealed to the Dewan, just as Mr. Gandhi appealed to H. E. the Viceroy in his recent letter to the latter to set an example for others to follow, by generously agreeing to forego a portion of his salary.

On behalf of Government, THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY explained with facts and figures that the administration was not top heavy as was characterised by the mover of the resolution; that the scale of salaries of higher officers had remained almost stationary for some years past in spite of the fact that prices of food-stuffs had considerably increased, and that the Government were making every effort to reduce the salaries wherever possible and instanced the case of the grant of reduced pay to Mr. Forbes' successor in the Electrical Department.

Referring to the subordinate staff, the Financial Secretary said that the Government were doing all that was possible to improve their pay and prospects and that they were not unmindful of their present situation.

Continuing, the Financial Secretary said that even though the pay of higher officers was reduced, say by 5 per cent, the amount that would be saved would be about 2 to 3 lakhs of rupees and that would not be a material saving. On the other hand, it would create some discontent in the minds of officers which would be most prejudicial to the efficiency of service. He explained that apart from the consideration of the patriotic motives on which so much stress was laid by the mover and some other speakers on the motion the pay which the officers were now getting was not sufficient to maintain their position and dignity after retirement, and Government had to give compassionate allowances in certain cases where the officers died in harness as their families were left destitute. He admitted that in certain departments high rates of salaries were being given, but it was due to the fact that pay had to be fixed according to the quality and nature of the work to be turned out. He was of the opinion that if the pay of officers was reduced, many of them might seek employment elsewhere. The people knew the value of their services and would not take up service unless they got what they demanded. In such cases, Government had to pay heavily.

In view of the above circumstances, he said that the Government could not see their way to accept the resolution.

The resolution was then put to vote and passed by a large majority.

At this stage, THE DEWAN informed the House that certain members of the House had applied for the suspension of the business of the House with a view to discuss certain irregularities in the recent elections from the Representative Assembly to the Legislative Council, the three Boards of Economic Conference and the three Panels; that he could not take it as an adjournment motion, but would allow it as a representation, and permitted Mr. M. S. Linge Gowda to speak on it.

MR. HOSAKOPPA KRISHNA RAO pointed out that according to the rules of election the persons who were affected by the alleged irregular procedure could seek remedy in a Court of Law; that out of 7 days allowed for appeal, only three days had elapsed; that there were still four more days for the parties to file their complaints before the Court; and that as the matter would be sub-judice it was not right to discuss the point in the Assembly which was a constitutional body. He was also afraid that there would be endless

trouble, if the question was allowed to be discussed in the House as that would not only influence the decision of the Court, but might also necessitate the members both official and non-official taking part in the discussion being summoned before the Court. To avoid all this unpleasantness, he pleaded that the discussion might not be allowed.

THE DEWAN said that so far as Government were concerned, they would be quite guarded in their replies and allowed Mr. M. S. Linge Gowda to explain his case.

MR. M. S. LINGE GOWDA in doing so said that during the elections held on the 13th June 1930, there were many outsiders in the polling booths influencing the members to vote for their candidates; that the voters were allowed to consult each other while voting, contrary to the election rules; that when a certain voting box was full, the voting papers presented by the members had been kept on the table of the polling officer tied up in a bundle; that he saw some members coming out of the polling booth with the voting paper and marking the names of candidates there; that he had himself brought some of these irregularities to the notice of the Chief Polling Officer, and regretted that under the very nose of Government such irregularities should have been allowed to be committed.

MR. DYAVAPPA GOWDA refuted the above statements by explaining that to begin with, there were some people near the polling officers, but the Chief Polling Officer sent all of them out and posted a servant near each polling officer; that none other than the voters were in the booths; that the voters were let in only after they produced the Oath of Allegiance form, and that so far as he could see, there were no irregularities in the elections.

The member from Arsikere also said that there was absolutely no cause for complaint whatever; that he belonged to no party; that he waited till 7-30 P.M. to give his vote and till then, everything went off very well.

The question was talked out and the Assembly rose for the day to meet again the next day at 12 NOON.